

RECOGNIZING ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as we close out the month of June, Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month, it is critical to note that the effort to enhance treatment and find a cure for Alzheimer's must be prioritized year round. Yet, there is no better time to reflect upon the progress that has been made in this effort, the long road ahead and opportunities just around the corner.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, 5.4 million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's or related dementia and as the baby boom population ages, that number is expected to skyrocket. This devastating disease impacts patients and families alike. Over 15 million family members and friends provide over 18 billion hours of unpaid care to their loved ones annually, at tremendous emotional and often financial sacrifice.

Alzheimer's is a progressive disease that affects an individual's cognitive abilities. While Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death for Americans, it is the only disease among the ten leading causes of death in America that cannot be prevented cured or even slowed.

Alzheimer's is also the most expensive disease in America and incurs catastrophic costs to Medicare and Medicaid—approximately \$236 billion in 2016. On average, Medicare spends three times more on seniors with Alzheimer's than without.

To ensure that optimum care is provided to every Alzheimer's patient, we need to find innovative ways to improve quality of care. To this end, I have introduced legislation—the Health Outcomes, Planning, and Education (HOPE) for Alzheimer's Act—which will amend the Social Security Act to add an additional one-time benefit for care planning services for Medicare beneficiaries newly diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. This one time comprehensive care planning session will arm patients and caregivers with the facts, prognosis, and most efficacious treatment plan.

It is our moral imperative to support individuals with Alzheimer's and their caregivers. We have an obligation to care for our citizens as they age and we must support them as they struggle to face the challenges of this disease.

HOPE fulfills this obligation by ensuring quality of life for Alzheimer's patients. These patients are often hospitalized because comorbidities, such as diabetes, become uncontrolled when patients are no longer able to manage their own care. In other instances, medicines prescribed to control the symptoms of Alzheimer's can be rendered ineffective when patients, unequipped with sufficient information, use them in conjunction with other prescriptions. Care planning can ensure this does not happen, ensuring that symptoms are controlled to the extent possible, so patients can have the best quality of life.

Not only would HOPE improve health outcomes for Alzheimer's patients, it would also mitigate the huge, unnecessary costs associated with preventable trips to hospitals and emergency rooms. This is especially impor-

tant, as Alzheimer's is the most expensive disease in America and presents a unique cost to Medicare and Medicaid.

A cost estimate commissioned by the Alzheimer's Association and conducted by Healthspiren, a DC based health care consulting firm, indicated that as a result of this legislation, net federal health spending would decrease by \$692 million over the 10-year period.

The cost estimate is based on a study tracking 1,756 patients newly diagnosed with dementia, depression or mild cognitive impairment, broken into two cohorts, one cohort receiving comprehensive care planning and chronic care management through a collaborative care model and the other cohort not.

The study showed a significant savings for those patients enrolled in the collaborative care model as opposed to their peers and based on the study, the HOPE benefit is estimated to have a per person savings of \$600 and per person cost \$200 for a 3:1 return on investment.

Passage of my legislation, which has 291 bipartisan cosponsors, will empower individuals with much-needed information to outline their future treatments and care—giving patients HOPE, and a plan for their future.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support my bill and hope that the momentum brought to this issue during Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month carries forward.

TRIBUTE TO RANDY LANOIX

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Randy Lanoix of Donaldsonville, Louisiana, as he nears the end of his term as the 111th Chairman of the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America, also known as the Big "I." Randy was installed as Chairman of the Big "I" in September 2015, and he has been a strong, thoughtful and charismatic leader for independent insurance agents across the country.

Randy has a strong track record in the independent agency system, serving as president of the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of Louisiana (IIABL) in 2001 and as the Louisiana representative on the Big "I" national Board of Directors from January 2005 to September 2010. He received the Lou Daniel award, which is the highest honor bestowed by the IIABL, in 2010. Randy is also a past recipient of the "Mr. Chairman" award for his work as Louisiana's legislative chairman and his work with the Louisiana state legislature.

On the national level, Lanoix has served on the Professional Liability Committee, the Trusted Choice® Board of Directors, numerous task forces, and two terms on the Government Affairs Committee, where he was chairman of State Government Affairs. In these leadership positions, Randy has always sought to promote an environment where independent agents, in both Louisiana and across the country, can continue to thrive in their business and represent their customers.

Randy is the owner of the Lanoix Insurance Agency in Port Allen, Louisiana which is lo-

cated in my congressional district. He has been married to his wife Nell for more than 36 years, and they have two sons, Bryan and David, who work in the family agency alongside their father. Their family also includes daughters-in-law Leslie and Michelle along with their grandson Brooks and their granddaughter Riley.

I am pleased to join Randy's colleagues from across Louisiana and the nation in congratulating him as he finishes his term as Chairman of the Big "I."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 21, 2016, I was unavoidably detained due to a flight delay caused by inclement weather in the Washington, DC area.

Had I been present and voting on Roll Call No. 334, I would have voted NO (On H.R. 5525, End Taxpayer Funded Cell Phones Act of 2016).

Had I been present and voting on Roll Call No. 335, I would have voted AYE (On H.R. 5388, Support for Rapid Innovation Act of 2016).

Had I been present and voting on Roll Call No. 336, I would have voted AYE (H.R. 5389, Leveraging Emerging Technologies Act of 2016).

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHARTERING OF ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 70th anniversary of the chartering of the U.S. Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory, located in my district in Illinois.

Argonne traces its beginnings to experiments by the renowned physicist Enrico Fermi, who led researchers in creating the world's first self-sustaining nuclear reaction. From its initial mission to fulfill the promise of the atom as a new energy source, Argonne has grown into a multidimensional laboratory addressing a range of major scientific and societal needs, still however, with the primary mission to invent, innovate, and protect energy technologies for the nation.

The lab's work now spans the spectrum from basic research to applied science in areas including physics, materials and chemistry, math and computer science, life sciences, renewable energy, nuclear energy, energy storage, transportation, establishing energy surety and securing critical infrastructure. And Argonne remains on the cutting edge as it extends its expertise into new scientific endeavors including protein characterization, nanomaterials, molecular engineering and urban sciences.

I am pleased to have in my district a national laboratory that is a longstanding global